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The World's Columbian Exposition.

SPEECH

OF

HON. BENJAMIN BUTTERWORTH,

OF OHIO,

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Friday, February 6, 1891.

The House being in Committee of the Whole and having under consideration the bill (H. R. 13452) making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1892, and for other purposes—

Mr. BUTTERWORTH said:

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The question before the committee is of very considerable consequence, not only to the respective boards charged with the duty of preparing and conducting the World's Columbian Exposition, but also to the people of this country.

We are committed to the world to complete the work we have undertaken irrespective of the instrumentality through which it is accomplished. We have pledged the faith and honor of this Republic to the discharge of each obligation assumed and duty imposed by the provisions of the act of Congress approved April 25, A. D. 1890.

Congress exacted of Chicago a guaranty of $10,000,000 and an eligible site for the fair before the Government would become sponsor for the enterprise. The guaranty was promptly given, an eligible site was tendered and accepted in conformity to law, and thereupon the United States became the foster mother of the World's Columbian Exposition, and can not without discredit fail to give to it all necessary encouragement and aid. We must keep each promise and redeem every pledge.

The difference between civilization and barbarism is in a large degree measured by the means employed in communicating thought from one to another and by the materialization of ideas into forms and useful agencies for the convenience and comfort of mankind. The international exposition authorized and provided for in the act mentioned will furnish an opportunity for an inventory and study of that which is the evidence of the progress made in civilization.

What was the prime object and purpose of the enactment of this law and how shall we best carry its provisions into effect? How shall we deal with the condition that confronts us to-day? What did this Congress by the letter and spirit of the act I have cited require, whether

through a local organization of the State of Illinois or through a commission appointed by the President of the United States?

THE TERMS OF THE ACT.

I desire to call attention for a single moment to the nature of the obligations defined by the act and by its terms imposed upon the national commission and the Illinois corporation, those two organizations being the agents of the Federal Government in carrying into effect the act of Congress mentioned.

I will read from the act, because it states clearly what I desire to say. The introduction of the act providing for this World's Fair is in this language:

Whereas it is fit and appropriate that the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America be commemorated by an exhibition of the resources of the United States of America, their development, and of the progress of civilization in the New World; and

Whereas such an exhibition should be of a national and international character, so that not only the people of our Union and this continent, but those of all nations as well, can participate, and should therefore have the sanction of the Congress of the United States: Therefore,

Be it enacted, etc., That an exhibition of arts, industries, manufactures, and products of the soil, mine, and sea, shall be inaugurated in the year 1892, in the city of Chicago, in the State of Illinois, as hereinafter provided.

So it will be observed Congress provided for a national and international exposition; but as a condition precedent to the assumption of responsibility by the National Government the city of Chicago or the corporation representing the State of Illinois and the city of Chicago were required, as before mentioned, to raise $10,000,000, so that it would be available for the purpose stipulated in the act. When that proposition was submitted to this body there were not twenty men on the floor of this House who believed that any city in the Union could or would raise $10,000,000 for the purpose and in time to carry into effect this law. So great a sum for the promotion of such a project had never been raised by any municipality in the world. It had never been done by any State in the Union. I do not say that other cities on this continent could not. But the people of Chicago furnished the amount, a sum of money equal to $10 for every man, woman, and child within her corporate limits, for the purpose of carrying into effect this law, a work which may indeed result in great advantage to Chicago, but will in a larger degree add to the glory of this nation.

The exposition is not a local enterprise; it is not a State, but it is a national, enterprise in the broadest and best sense. It is the creature of Congressional enactment. The benefit to Chicago is an incident. Her citizens may reap a profit of many million dollars. But those citizens who put their hands in their pockets in this endeavor to confer distinction upon their city and State have at the same time added greatly to the glory of the nation and given larger opportunity to each of its citizens.

THE CRYSTALLIZED THOUGHT OF FORTY CENTURIES.

I desire to call attention to a phase of this question that may not be given due importance. I may be a little enthusiastic touching the advantages to our people of an exhibition of this character. Let me inquire what you will see at this exposition. An exhibit of the vast progress made during the centuries in every useful art; an exhibit of what science has accomplished for mankind in the past; in other words, the crystallized thought of forty centuries will be displayed for the instruction of our people and the people of the world. There will be

shown the steps in evolution from the first crude devices, along the line to the most complete machine. For instance, every appliance and method for utilizing electricity will there be shown, and a few days' careful observation will reveal more to the student in that field of art than would result from several years devoted to the most careful study of books.

So in regard to improvements in agricultural implements and machinery. The result of the efforts of inventors and workmen throughout the world can be there surveyed in a short space of time, and the observer become possessed of the accumulated knowledge resulting from the combined efforts of thousands of men throughout the world. And this is clearly true of every branch of industrial art and of the sciences as well. Since there will be gathered together, as I have before suggested, the results of the best thought and endeavor of mankind, it must therefore occur that each intelligent visitor will have his mind sown with seed that may produce a rich harvest in the coming years.

It is a conceded fact that the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia wrought a revolution in a great many departments of industry, new and better methods being adopted as the result of knowledge gained by our people at that exposition. The style of our architecture throughout the country was changed and greatly improved. The advantage measured in dollars and cents was beyond estimate. Sir, there is not a gentleman on the floor who has a just and adequate conception of what the developments in the field of industrial art have accomplished for our race. The mind can hardly grasp the full measure of advantage when expressed in figures.

EXPOSITIONS ARE STUPENDOUS EDUCATORS.

In viewing these exhibits we realize not only what man has done, and what woman has done, with hand and brain, but there is the suggestion of the possibilities that wait upon each and all of our people. Every intelligent individual who goes to that exposition will come away not only with broader views, but clothed with a larger power to employ his faculties in fighting the battle of life and promoting the happiness of mankind. It has been so with every exposition. And although the one held at New Orleans, being badly located, was indeed a failure financially, yet for every dollar invested in that exhibition I have no doubt this country has realized an hundred fold in positive advantage to the people of the Southern States.

Mr. COLEMAN. The gentleman will allow me to say that the exposition at New Orleans has done more to develop the industrial resources of the South than anything that has occurred since the abolition of slavery or is likely to transpire for years to come.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. I have no doubt that my friend is correct about that. The exhibition of the various devices for producing sugar, the various means of treating cotton and other fibers, the various methods of utilizing facilities for transportation, has wrought a change of the most beneficent character. As the people came in by hundreds of thousands, each one presented a mental soil in which that exhibition planted ideas which bore rich fruit in after years.

Mr. GROSVENOR. While nothing is more pleasant to me than the eloquence of my distinguished colleague, yet I would like to have, so far as I am personally concerned, my colleague's own actual knowledge of the necessity for these expenditures. I hope he will tell us something about the hundred and fifteen women whose meeting cost $15,000,

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and the other things along that part of the line. Let us know the necessity for these apparently extravagant expenditures.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. Well, let me say to my colleague, Mr. Chairman, that in speaking thus I have sought to impress—and I may have failed in some instances to do so—upon my hearers the advantage which inevitably results from an enterprise of this character, if properly managed. If no advantage will result from it, we had better make no appropriation. But if it scatters blessings throughout the length and breadth of the country by opening a great school for the improvement of all our people, who may come together to learn how the arts and sciences have contributed and may contribute to the amelioration and improvement of our race, then my honored colleague will see that there are reasons why we should warmly encourage instead of treating the project with indifference, and why we might pass over many errors of judgment in the management, as they seem to us, that are almost inevitable and are certainly excusable in the inauguration of such a vast enterprise.

I will now consider the matter to which my colleague has referred. First, it is obvious that to inaugurate and successfully carry forward the work of this exposition involves a vast expenditure of money and the employment of the time and ability of the best citizens of Chicago, and, in fact, of the whole country. And I want to show to all who are interested—and all are interested—precisely what has been accomplished, what is being done, and what is contemplated for the future.

WHAT PRELIMINARY WORK HAS BEEN DONE.

As you are all aware the State of Illinois granted a charter of incorporation to a number of men to carry into effect this law of Congress; in other words, to provide the ways and means for holding this exposition. Forty-five of the leading business men of Chicago became the charter members. Among these were the most capable financiers and commercial men of Chicago, all gentlemen of the highest character. And here I wish to say that as I sat among them, listening to their deliberations, I studied each of them carefully. There was not one among them, so far as I know, who had not, as we are accustomed to say in the West, "taken life from the stump." They were men who had fought their way from a humble beginning to the magnificent success each had achieved; and they have shown an almost unexampled willingness to share their success with others and make their prosperity the means of serving the whole people.

Such are the men who compose the directory of the World's Columbian Exposition and stand pledged to make it a success worthy of their city, their State, and the nation. They contributed financial aid, as did the people of Chicago generally, from the boot-black to the banker. Each of them gave heartily his contribution, the sums ranging from ten to tens of thousands of dollars, to meet the expenses necessary to insure success.

As you are aware, a national commission was appointed consisting of one hundred and fifteen men. This commission was authorized by the act of Congress to which I have already referred. They were gathered together from the four quarters, not of the earth, but of the Republic. They met in Chicago for the first time. They had to study the law and determine what their powers and duties were, what the jurisdiction of the body was, and naturally reasoned and learned a little in the direction of their desires. If they did not find the jurisdiction coex-

tensive with their desires, it was because it was obviously not authorized by the law; and as my friend from Massachusetts [Mr. CANDLER] and other gentlemen have said, there was little beyond the limit of their jurisdiction, as they interpreted the law.

It may be said possibly of the local board, on the other hand, that they were in some measure disposed to insist on an extension of their jurisdiction beyond its proper limit. It is true that some members of the commission in the beginning insisted that the local board, composed, as I have stated, of as able and patriotic men as can be found in the Union, men whose honor and whose fortunes were pledged to make the exposition a success, had little or nothing to do except to raise $10,000,000 and lay the money down at the feet of the commission and let the committee of that body vote it here and there without the yea or nay of the local board. It was contended by the local board that business principles and methods must be adopted in conducting the enterprise. It was unfortunate, however, that the local board was not more determined in its position. Their spirit of accommodation took the form of subserviency. I could not sharpen a pencil in the office of the local board without its provoking newspaper comment, suggesting usurpation by the officials of the directory.

A COMPACT ORGANIZATION PROVIDED.

That was the vexatious condition. It was not wholly the fault of the commission, nor the fault of the local board, but this question of jurisdiction and resulting friction remained to disturb the harmony, which was most unfortunate at the inception of such an enterprise. The arrival of the honorable gentlemen composing the House committee was most timely and salutary in its influence. The effect of it was to compel peace between the two organizations and a resort to measures which should have been adopted at an earlier day.

Up to that time no lawyer had by authority examined the statute and rendered an opinion as to the limit of jurisdiction between the two bodies. But when you gentlemen arrived, or when, "far off, your coming shone," eminent counsel, learned in the law, were called together to consider this question. They were unanimous in their conclusions. It is true they did not agree with all the gentlemen of the commission. But what was the result? Why, like sensible men, the two bodies met together, and wiping out the debatable lines, those shadowy and doubtful lines of jurisdiction between them, they agreed they would set aside the cumbersome machinery of which my friends of the committee very properly complain. They did set aside all that cumbersome machinery and appointed committees, and provided a complete, compact organization, with a board of control to supervise the work. They established a number of departments, as follows:

A. Agriculture, food and food products, farming machinery and appliances.
B. Viticulture, horticulture, and floriculture.
C. Live stock: domestic and wild animals.
D. Fish, fisheries, fish products, and apparatus of fishing.
E. Mines, mining, and metallurgy.
F. Machinery.
G. Transportation exhibits: railways, vessels, vehicles.
H. Manufactures.
J. Electricity and electrical appliances.
K. Fine arts: pictorial, plastic, and decorative.

L. Liberal arts: education, engineering, public works, architecture, music, and the drama.

M. Ethnology, archæology, progress of labor and invention, isolated and collective exhibits.

N. Forestry and forest products.

O. Publicity and promotion.

P. Foreign affairs.

And they are placing suitable men at the head of each one. The national commission no longer meets. It has taken wings, and so have our troubles. But there remains the impress of its power, the stamp of Congress and the Government which called it into being. That matter is settled, and to-day they have a board of control satisfactory to both bodies, selected from both bodies, supplemented by small committees operating harmoniously and effectively.

AS TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL.

Mr. FLOWER. Will my friend yield for a suggestion?

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. Yes.

Mr. FLOWER. In your judgment, with this board of control on each side, eight from your committee and eight from the other, what need is there for any more commissioners, ladies or otherwise, until the fair meets?

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. Well, my friend, there might be a very wide difference of opinion about that. The committee considered that question. Candidly I do not think there is any crying need for it; and yet I have always found the master's eye was worth both his hands. The Committee on Appropriations considered the matter, as my honorable friend from Kentucky [Mr. BRECKINRIDGE] has said; and instead of providing for two meetings a year they provided for one meeting in 1892. They have also provided for that machinery which every business man will recognize as indispensable to the discharge of the duties that devolve upon the two bodies.

It has been urged on the floor of the House that a mistake was made on the part of the national commission in the appointment of a director general. Let us not forget, gentlemen, that this is our fair, and not the fair of a city or locality, but the fair of the people of the United States, and will reflect either their glory or their shame. The officer who speaks for and represents it, standing conspicuously above all others, as its executive head, and representing both bodies, whose signature goes to other countries and goes to all the States of the Union, is the director general. He is the head and front of the management, representing both organizations, chosen, however, by the national commission, but approved by the local board. Why, therefore, should it not be a national office? He represents the people of the United States.

"Well," it is said, "that may be, but the local board should pay him." I appeal to the honorable gentlemen here whether Chicago has not fulfilled to the letter all she promised, and more? I ask whether the State of Illinois, one of the young States of the Union, has not met all the requirements of the situation? Her Legislature proposes to give and will give more than that of any other State, for the purpose of promoting this national enterprise, because she has a local pride in it. Chicago has raised $10,000,000, and will add several millions to that sum. Has she been liberal or not? Is Congress treating her with generous encouragement? Is she to be criticised because, forsooth, she deems it proper and just that the director general be paid

out of the Treasury of the nation that employs him, since he is the chosen officer of all the people.

Your law provides that all intercourse with foreign exhibitors, etc., shall be conducted, by whom? Not by the local board, but by the national commission. And therefore, will any gentleman say, will my honored friend from Massachusetts [Mr. CANDLER] maintain that it is not proper, that it is not important, that the officer who meets and greets those visitors from abroad should be a national officer? Undoubtedly, he should be; and, if so, shall the Government not pay him?

Mr. WILSON, of West Virginia. Why not let the president do that? He is a member of the national commission.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. What president?

Mr. WILSON, of West Virginia. The president of the national commission.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. Well, the president is not identified with the aggressive working organization of the exposition, and no president of a commission ever was. It is the man who represents the pulsating machinery of that enterprise who must speak for it, and not the president of the commission. He has his own duties to perform; but the director general represents the Government of the United States and should be paid out of the Treasury, and I hold it is unjust to the generous people of Chicago not to do so.

One word more as to what Chicago has done beyond what is fairly required by this statute. To-day she has agents in Japan, in China, in Algiers, in South America, in Mexico, in the Orient, arranging for exhibits from all these countries, in order that this exposition may be far beyond what its most sanguine friends expected or hoped for it.

Mr. ADAMS. Is that required by the law?

WHAT CHICAGO IS DOING.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. Chicago is not required by law to do so, but in addition to sending agents to China, Japan, etc., she has placed $100,000 subject to the control of the officers appointed by the Government to procure exhibits from South America and the other nations on the western continent. In other words, they have been in nowise niggardly; and we think it is due from Congress to be fair and even generous, at least to be just, towards those people who have done so much.

Mr. WILSON, of West Virginia. The gentleman does not understand that any criticism has been made upon the local directory? We commend it. We commend their enterprise.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. Certainly, I know that. I know you have praised their endeavors, and in the same spirit of justice a further remark touching the men who compose the directory is in place. The time and efforts of these forty-five directors, given gratuitously, is in itself a contribution of great value, since they are men of the highest character and position in the social, financial, and business world. And this but supplements their pecuniary aid. They have indeed a local interest in making the exposition a success.

But from a national point of view they should feel no more pride in it than any other citizen. You and each one of your constitutents must feel a just pride in the result, that it should reflect credit upon our nation. The world does not look to the directory of Chicago. The world does not look to Chicago, nor yet to the State of Illinois. The nations look to this Capitol and those who represent the Federal Government for the character and success of this exposition; but Congress relies upon the genius, the enterprise, and unflagging zeal of the gentlemen who

compose the directory and the citizens of Chicago to impart to the fair the measure of success which the standing of our Government among the nations demands. We should be thankful for having within our border a city like Chicago, generous, aggressive, sometimes vastly too aggressive, but in this case fairly equal to all that you would require.

In speaking of the directors I have but paid a deserved compliment to the men who represent the vital forces in this undertaking.

A few months ago one of the most honorable societies of Europe, the Society of Engineers (comprising several hundred distinguished men), visited the United States. They met in Chicago. Among them were Sir James Kittson, president of the society; Mr. James Dredge, an eminent engineer, and one of the editors and proprietors of Engineering, the leading illustrated journal of the Old World. Each one came as a "doubting Thomas." They said: "Is it possible that upon an inland sea in this young nation a city has grown up in fifty years which can meet the requirements of the law which we have read?"

The visitors remained in Chicago two days, were sorry they could not stay a week. They met the members of the directory; they visited the site of the exposition. They discussed its purpose, scope, and plan. Their doubts were removed, and their faith became as strong as their doubts had been. I conferred with many of them. They contemplated in wonder and admiration the unexampled energy and pluck of these men who had contributed $11,000,000 for the promotion of an enterprise in which they have no interest except to add to the prosperity and the honor of their city and country. These distinguished visitors returned to their several homes, champions of our great undertaking, in which they recognize an effort in behalf of mankind.

THINGS ARE RUNNING SMOOTHLY.

Mr. Dredge, since his return to London, read a very able paper on the exposition before the Society of Art. Sir —— Hall, another eminent thinker and writer, presided. If these strangers within our gates are filled with zeal for our enterprise, shall we stand here and bicker about paying the salary of the officer chosen under authority of Congress to manage the exposition? The work is going forward smoothly and satisfactorily. True it is that when our friends of the Congressional committee, Mr. CANDLER, Mr. FRANK, Mr. FLOWER, and Mr. WILSON of West Virginia, were there the machinery was not running smoothly; but that was several months ago. It is not so now. "White-winged Peace" has settled upon us. [Laughter.] We are working as smoothly and effectively as any of the friends of the fair could desire; and there are no troubles to retard our progress. We are moving forward.

Mr. FLOWER. If you can get these salaries all will go smoothly.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. I want to call attention to that in a moment. I use the language of one of these eminent engineers. He said:

You have furnished the finest site to be found on either continent, upon the lake, by the side of an inland sea, with walks and drives and beauties that are unsurpassed and unequaled anywhere in the world.

The Exposition Park contains a thousand acres—fifteen hundred, if you desire, upon which to locate the fair. There will be a floor space of over 150 acres, and the people of Chicago will not stop until they have raised the sum of $13,000,000. There is not an example in the history of the world where the people of a single locality or a city has

done so much for the nation in which they reside or in which it was located. I but bespeak for that people the honor and the credit due for such courage and energy, and I hope that you will deal with them at least fairly.

What else? There is some criticism upon the frequent meetings of the commission. The commission has "come and gone." It may be said of it that it "fleeth like a shadow and continueth not." [Laughter.] Their committees remain, and the rest of the commission have gone to their homes to help this enterprise in the several States.

Some criticism was offered in reference to the ladies' commission; but my learned friend from West Virginia [Mr. WILSON] has not reached that sere old age when he is willing to amble into the arena and criticise vigorously one hundred and fifteen women, or even a smaller number. [Laughter.] Mr. Chairman, when the one hundred and fifteen women met together, I am sure my friend will bear me out in saying that they bore themselves in a manner worthy of them.

Mr. CANDLER, of Massachusetts. Better than the men.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. That is right. That is gallantry. I like it.

Mr. CANDLER, of Massachusetts. It is true.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. It is true; and it would be gallant if it were not true [laughter]; but it is true. These ladies represented the best type of American womanhood. They represented the several States and Territories of the Union, and, as my honored friend here admits, they bore themselves with conspicuous ability and true dignity. They organized, and I do not think there was any wirepulling or chicanery in the selection of the president of that body. They chose by a unanimous vote a lady who would grace any court in the world [loud applause in the House and galleries], a lady who would grace any station in the land [renewed applause], a woman of rare dignity and culture, and who is utterly devoted to this work, and gives her time without stint to the discharge of the duties devolved upon her, and without other compensation than the honor that may come as a result of duty well performed. She has for her assistant the secretary of the ladies' commission, a lady well known to every member here as a most dignified and highly educated woman, whose full knowledge and large experience give her a conspicuous place among the women of the United States.

THE WOMEN'S DEPARTMENT.

These women and their associates are laboring to secure (for the first time in the history of the world) an exhibit for women commensurate with their dignity and its importance.

Chicago has provided a building which will cost $200,000 in order that the women, not only of our own country, but of the world, may make an exhibition of what the hand and brain of woman have accomplished in the past, what they are accomplishing to-day, and pointing to the broader opportunities that the future has in store for them. The women of England, the women of France, the women of Germany, and of Mexico, in other words, the women of the world, have turned their eyes to Chicago and are taking an interest in the women's organization there, and they will bring exhibits to illustrate what opportunities will wait upon their sex in the years to come.

Our friends know very well that the field of useful endeavor for women is being enlarged from year to year; that new vocations, new avenues of employment, new industries are opened to them. Now,

what else have we? The ground is provided for; the buildings are provided for; the classification is complete; men in all parts of the world are working to promote the interests of this grand exposition. Nor is this all. Up to this time we have spoken only of material things, which are but thought crystallized; but there is one other thing that the Chicago directory has provided for. It relates to, "not things, but men." I refer to the world's congress. So that during the exposition of material things we may have also the best thoughts of the nineteenth century given to our people. The ablest thinkers, not of this Republic alone, but of the world, will meet to discuss the important questions which are uppermost in the minds of men. I submit that man is very dull indeed who can stand this afternoon in the presence of what is occurring in this Republic and elsewhere and not realize that we are approaching new conditions; that radical changes must soon transpire which will affect our economic and possibly our social system from center to circumference; questions that will make us more anxious than any which have heretofore been forced upon our attention.

The directory deemed it expedient to call together the great thinkers and workers of the world during this exposition. And it is peculiarly gratifying to observe the liberal spirit manifested by the people of Chicago in this behalf. Churches will be thrown open for the proposed meetings. The great Auditorium, the finest building upon either continent, that monument to the genius of Ferdinand W. Peck, a Chicago boy, educated in her public schools, who has been instrumental in giving to his native city and to America the finest building upon either continent—that great building is to be thrown open for the meeting of these congresses.

Who will be there? The eminent scientists in the field of electricity; those who have given most thought and investigation to the problem of municipal government; those who have given consideration to the questions of production and distribution of supplies; in other words, from the whole field of scientific and economic research the leading men of the world have signified their willingness to come to Chicago during the exposition and contribute of the gathered fruit of forty centuries of investigation and experiment for the benefit of their fellow-men, and all this at comparatively little expense. We have provided in the pending bill $2,500 for the encouragement of that part of the enterprise.

There are now only one or two matters I desire to add, and I will print, as addenda to my remarks, some statements which I deem it important that members of the House should read, if they can not hear them, in regard to what is being done in pushing forward the work of preparation.

There are only one or two other matters of which I desire to speak, for I am aware that the House has been detained for a long time upon the items in question, and I do not wish to weary it by prolonging the session. I remember that the last time I held the floor some gentlemen thought I was not happy in my effort. I was discussing the tariff. [Laughter and cheers.]

Mr. TUCKER. Oh, yes; you were happy.

Several MEMBERS. You were. You were very happy.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. I think, possibly, I was.

Mr. BRECKINRIDGE, of Kentucky. I hope you will vote better on this question than you did on that. You can not speak better, but I hope you will vote better.

LET EXISTING HARMONY CONTINUE.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. I never knew my friend from Kentucky [Mr. BRECKINRIDGE] to part company with his party on any question. If he had, instead of being able to help "guide the party machine," he would have been seen sitting on the fence watching the procession pass by. [Laughter.]

Mr. WASHINGTON. You never heard him speak against it and then vote for it. [Laughter.]

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. No; he always kept silent. He would not even bear witness against the wrong. [Laughter.] But, Mr. Chairman, that is not in question here now. I want to remark at this point that my brethren of the World's Fair Committee who visited Chicago rendered excellent service, and they are entitled to praise instead of censure. I do not think anyone rendered better service than you gentlemen of the committee. I was pretty near the nerve center there, and I am certain there can be no question that your coming was most timely.

After your arrival we had some experience of harmony, of the dwelling together in unity. We have since dwelt together in unity. You were as the oil on the troubled waters. But now when you have the waters still and hushed for the quiet sailing of this magnificent enterprise, we do not want you to lash them into fury again, and render your coming a second time necessary, when you might not be able to turn aside the calamity which unfriendly action here would threaten.

Mr. FLOWER. We can not change our minds every ten minutes, you know.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. In the first place the Government has provided, as heretofore, for an exhibit by the various Departments, including the National Museum and the bureau for the propagation of fish, etc. The committee has provided full appropriation to complete the Government building. We hope it will be ample. No one criticises that item.

Let it be understood that at the time the national commission met it was thought that it would have a larger jurisdiction than is now conceded, and more extended than it is now exercising. It is now acting in conjunction and accord with the local directory, and in a manner thoroughly satisfactory to both bodies.

I believe in divorce under certain circumstances, but when man and wife, having quarreled, come together, kiss and make up, and are living happily and rearing their children "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord," why should we insist, against their will, on divorcing them? I can not see; can you? In other words, when the troubles that vexed this enterprise have passed away, when this great project in which we are all so deeply concerned, is being satisfactorily conducted, I can not see why we should be intent on dealing with it as of its former estate and condition.

[Here the hammer fell.]

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. I would like a few moments more.

Mr. SPRINGER. Ten minutes?

IN REGARD TO THE QUESTION OF SALARIES.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. I will not trespass unduly upon the indulgence of the House and trust that I shall not be strictly limited.

Mr. SPRINGER. I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from Ohio be allowed to proceed without limitation. [Cries of "That is right!"]

The CHAIRMAN. In the absence of objection, the gentleman from Ohio will proceed.

There was no objection.

Mr. CANDLER, of Massachusetts. Before the gentleman proceeds I would like to ask him a question.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. I yield for that purpose.

Mr. CANDLER, of Massachusetts. I dislike to come down from poetry to prose, but I want——

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. Hold on; do not make a speech; you said you wanted to ask a question.

Mr. CANDLER, of Massachusetts. I want to make a preliminary statement, because I can not ask the question intelligently to the House without doing so. The gentleman is the secretary of the Chicago corporation, with its corps of clerks, etc. The United States commission has a secretary with a salary of $10,000 and with authority to appoint two assistant secretaries with salaries of $3,000 each, together with a body of other assistants. Now, I wish to ask the gentleman whether he does not consider that an unnecessary expenditure for the discharge of the duties of that office.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. I will answer the gentleman; and on this point my friend from Kentucky [Mr. BRECKINRIDGE] has anticipated me. There is now, always has been, and always will be until the light of the millennium breaks in, a disposition on the part of such bodies as the commission to provide a very ample force and ask very liberal supplies. But, mark you, this was done, as I have already said to my friend, in view of the work laid out some months ago, which has since been in a measure limited. As my friend from Kentucky has already said, we have reduced the amount that can be used for that purpose about 20 per cent.

Mr. CANDLER, of Massachusetts. You have not reduced the pay of the secretary.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. Of course I can not say what that committee will do. All I can do is to make this pledge to the House and the country. Here is a committee composed of honorable men, selected with care, realizing the great responsibilities resting upon them, realizing the fact that you gentlemen have criticised them and criticised them properly; and, recognizing the fact that this House has demanded and the country insists upon economy, I can only say that those gentlemen are pledged to conduct the business committed to them as they would their own private affairs. And as the chairman of the committee, my friend, Mr. CANNON, has stated, we have reduced the appropriation which can be applied to these salaries.

Mr. CANDLER, of Massachusetts. I think not.

THE VIEWS OF CONGRESS WILL BE RESPECTED.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. Oh, yes, we have. I can not be mistaken in that, for I was present when it was done. [Laughter.] And, as my honored friend suggested, the reduction must be along that line. Where will the reduction be made? That is a pertinent question. I can not tell. But as we have faith in honorable and capable men charged with the performance of a high duty, I feel convinced that the views of Congress will be respected as far as practicable, and I can pledge for them to the House and to the country that they will not allow salaries or expenses which are extravagant.

Mr. WILSON, of West Virginia. But does not the gentleman think that it is the duty of Congress to fix the salary of every public official?

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. As an abstract proposition, I think so.

Mr. WILSON, of West Virginia. Well, as a concrete proposition, what do you think of it?

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. Well, as a concrete proposition, I think so, too. But there are manifest exceptions——

Mr. BRECKINRIDGE, of Kentucky. How could it be done on an appropriation bill?

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. I was just going to suggest that the rules of the House prevent it from being done in this way.

Mr. WILSON, of West Virginia. Well, then, if we can not do it upon an appropriation bill I fear it will not be done at all.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. I have no such fear. I have the most perfect confidence that these corrections will be made. There is no doubt about it in my judgment. The only question between us now is as to these salaries. We have cut down by one-fifth the appropriation that can be applied to the payment of them. We have said to the men who have the care of the expenditure that the expenses must be cut down; and I happen to know, from information derived from an absolutely reliable source, that wherever there is an extra typewriter, wherever there is an extra clerk or stenographer, or an extra salary paid in any way, it will be razed down until it shall meet the sentiment of economy prevailing in the country.

But, Mr. Chairman, there is a certain kind of economy which is more harmful than extravagance. If I might be permitted to quote a little Scripture in this connection—

> There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, yet it tendeth to poverty.

For myself I do not want that kind of economy.

Mr. WASHINGTON. Will the gentleman allow me to ask him a question?

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. Certainly.

Mr. WASHINGTON. I see that the telegraph states, in an Associated Press dispatch on yesterday, that the president of this exposition, Mr. Davis, said that he would resign if his salary was reduced as proposed by this bill. That, I understand, would be a great calamity.

Mr. HOPKINS. I do not think he said that.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. I do not believe that he made such an assertion. He might have said, as a man might very properly say under such circumstances, that unless he received a compensation which was satisfactory he would be compelled to resign the office.

Mr. ADAMS. He wanted to be a national officer.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. So I understood; that it was not so much a question of salary, but whether he represented the exposition as an official of the United States.

Mr. WASHINGTON. That is not the statement in the press dispatches.

Mr. HOPKINS. But that is the fact.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. Now, some men might be dear at 50 cents a day and others cheap at $50 a day. That is the experience of life; and I do not think that any man will dispute the accuracy of the statement.

Mr. KERR, of Iowa. The gentleman said a few moments ago that they would be willing to drop a number of typewriters and other clerks, but he said nothing about the reduction of this $15,000 salary.

THE VALUE OF A CAPABLE MAN'S SERVICES.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. I have just said that is a matter over which we have no control in this bill; but, as advising them touching the reduction of such salaries as ought to be cut down, we have in the bill limited the amount that might be applied to that use 20 per cent.

It is proper to say that Colonel Davis is a man—and I am convinced that the statement will be concurred in by many gentlemen on this floor who know him—who can readily command $15,000 a year in a dozen different places in Chicago.

Mr. MASON. Yes, $20,000.

Mr. WILSON, of West Virginia. So could the Secretary of State or the Secretary of the Interior.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. I have no doubt of it. But the Secretary of State is occupying a more conspicuous place in the nation than the director general of this fair. Such men as Colonel Davis, quick, active, vigilant men of affairs, can command large salaries and can not be induced to accept employment where the compensation is less than the service will command in other fields, and especially in view of the fact that his office is temporary and prevents his attending to other business.

As an illustration of what some men are worth to business ventures, Edward T. Jeffery, one of the ablest men of the directory, had an offer of $50,000 a year to take charge of a railroad in Mexico. But he declined, and largely because he had become committed to the work of the exposition, and with his associates feels in a large measure responsible for its success. But the offer made indicates what salaries great ability will command.

The First National Bank of Chicago would undoubtedly pay Lyman J. Gage $50,000 a year to retain his services, and they are worth it to the bank. It is so with other members of the directory; their time and ability will command almost any sum they ask, and yet our Government has both for nothing in promoting this national enterprise.

You need not feel disturbed, gentlemen, lest some of these men should shirk some responsibility or neglect some duty which has been properly devolved upon them. They are giving their time and best efforts to the promotion of this great project. And my country is reaping ten thousand fold for every poor scruple she appropriates to carry it forward. The only trouble is about these few salaries. Our committee has done the best it could to have them adjusted with reference to the requirements of the situation. That is all it could do.

Now, I have borne this witness because I think it is just, not only to the board I represent, but to the commission. I do not owe the commission anything. I have been criticised by it, or some of its officers, until I was out of all patience; but this is an enterprise compared with which men are nothing. The enterprise is everything. The world is looking on to see whether, in point of fact, a thousand miles inland, on what they regard as the frontier, it is possible to put on foot and carry forward an enterprise that shall eclipse any that the world has ever seen.

THE ENTERPRISE CAN NOT BE PERMITTED TO FAIL.

There ought to be national pride in this matter, there ought to be an appreciation of the efforts these men have put forth. I know how devoted they are. They are worn and weary in this struggle, and they deserve encouragement at the hands of the representatives of the people; and I want to say to this House—I shall not be in the next one, nor

the next, nor the next, I suppose, for I do not consent to wear the peculiar brand which is now quite common in our State [laughter]—but if a member of the next House, and if after the people of Chicago and of the State of Illinois had put twelve or fifteen millions of dollars into this national enterprise, which must reflect honor upon every child of the Republic, they needed money to tide them over, I would vote it, and think I was doing my country a valuable service.

But they have not asked it. Suppose they do. You will grant it or withhold it as the circumstances may suggest that it is wise and just, or the reverse, to do so. You are still master of the purse strings. But if you shall find coming up from all the nations those who are to exhibit the evidence of their resources and prosperity, if you shall see brought from every part of the Republic that which will show to the world what freemen can accomplish in this Republic, and if you find in carrying forward the work you have devolved upon the people of Chicago you have "pressed their duty past their might," and they are compelled to ask a generous recognition of the nation and a fair contribution in return for their splendid efforts, I believe Congress would vote it, and I am certain that I would do so if a member of the House. But "sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof."

I repeat it is the nation's enterprise, and can not be permitted to fail for want of support from the country whose creature it is. Such failure would not reflect upon Chicago at all as compared with the humiliation it would bring upon the United States.

One thing is certain, whatever wisdom and justice demand, the representatives of the people will do.

Mr. ENLOE. Will the gentleman allow me to ask him a question?

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. Yes, sir.

Mr. ENLOE. Is it in contemplation to have the colored element represented? I understand that there is some complaint that they are not represented.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. Oh, no; they admit every one without regard to race, sex, color, or previous condition of servitude. [Applause and laughter.] A man need not be thoroughly nor utterly white and he suffers no damage from being utterly black. [Laughter.] In other words, this is an exposition for the benefit of the American people.

Mr. ENLOE. That is right.

Mr. BUTTERWORTH. The following statement, which I will insert in my remarks without detaining the House to read it at this time, indicates the purpose and character of the world's congresses. I mark it Exhibit A. I will embody in my remarks also a statement containing information concerning the exposition, which will be useful to the public. I mark it Exhibit B.

I now yield the floor.

EXHIBIT A.

"Not things, but men."

THE WORLD'S CONGRESS AUXILIARY OF THE WORLD'S COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION.

The object of this organization.

As is now well known, the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus will be celebrated at Chicago in 1893, under the sanction of the Government of the United States, on a scale commensurate with the importance and dignity of the occasion.

The measures already taken give satisfactory assurances that the exposition then to be made of the material progress of the world will be such as to deserve unqualified approval.

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But to make the exposition complete and the celebration adequate, the wonderful achievements of the new age in science, literature, education, government, jurisprudence, morals, charity, religion, and other departments of human activity should also be conspicuously displayed as the most effective means of increasing the fraternity, progress, prosperity, and peace of mankind.

It has therefore been proposed that a series of world's congresses for that purpose be held in connection with the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893, and the world's congress auxiliary has been duly authorized and organized to promote the holding and success of such congresses.

Among the great themes which the congresses are expected to consider are the following:

I. The grounds of fraternal union in the language, literature, domestic life, religion, science, art, and civil institutions of different peoples.

II. The economic, industrial, and financial problems of the age.

III. Educational systems, their advantages and their defects; and the means by which they may best be adapted to the recent enormous increase in all departments of knowledge.

IV. The practicability of a common language, for use in the commercial relations of the civilized world.

V. International copyright and the laws of intellectual property and commerce.

VI. Immigration and naturalization laws, and the proper international privileges of alien governments, and their subjects or citizens.

VII. The most efficient and advisable means of preventing or decreasing pauperism, insanity, and crime and of increasing productive ability, prosperity, and virtue throughout the world.

VIII. International law as a bond of union and a means of mutual protection, and how it may best be enlarged, perfected, and authoritatively expressed.

IX. The establishment of the principles of judicial justice as the supreme law of international relations and the general substitution of arbitration for war in the settlement of international controversies.

It is impossible to estimate the advantages that would result from the mere establishment of personal acquaintance and friendly relations among the leaders of the intellectual and moral world, who now, for the most part, know each other only through the interchange of publications and, perhaps, the formalities of correspondence.

And, what is transcendently more important, such congresses, convened under circumstances so auspicious, would doubtless surpass all previous efforts to bring about a real fraternity of nations and unite the enlightened people of the whole earth in a general co-operation for the attainment of the great ends for which human society is organized.

The organization is intended to promote the success of the exposition of the material products of civilization, science, and art, but will confine its own operations to the exposition, in appropriate conventions, of the principles of human progress.

CHARLES C. BONNEY, *President.*
THOMAS B. BRYAN, *Vice President.*
LYMAN J. GAGE, *Treasurer.*
BENJAMIN BUTTERWORTH,
Secretary.

EXPOSITION HEADQUARTERS, *Chicago, Ill., U. S. A., October* 30, 1890.

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